

REMARKS

Claims 5 and 6 have been canceled. Claim 4 and amended claims 1- 3 are in this application.

Claims 1-4 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whiteside et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,844,845) in view of Kim (U.S. Patent No. 6,036,287).

Amended independent claim 1 recites in part the following:

"in which the corner is located at a rear portion of an intersection of two walls of the front surface panel and in which the position of the small boss is approximately 0.1 millimeters from each outer edge of the two walls." (Emphasis added.)

It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Whiteside and Kim applied by the Examiner does not appear to disclose the above-identified features of claim 1. That is, such combination of Whiteside and Kim does not appear to disclose a small boss positioned "approximately 0.1 millimeters from each outer edge of the two walls," as in claim 1. (Emphasis added.)

More specifically, and as best understood, in explaining the above 103 rejection the Examiner appears to rely on Kim and in particular "a small boss above a support element 102 at a corner of the portable electronic device as shown in figure 3" for disclosing a small boss at a corner position. (See lines 1-5 of page 3 of the present Office Action.) It is respectfully submitted that Kim does not appear to disclose that the element identified by the Examiner (i.e., the element above the support element 102) is located "approximately 0.1 millimeters from each outer edge of the two walls." (Emphasis added.) In fact, Kim does not even appear to describe such

element identified by the Examiner or to even identify such element.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the above 103 rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn. For reasons similar or somewhat similar to those previously described with regard to claim 1, it is also respectfully requested that the above 103 rejection of amended independent claims 2 and 3 be withdrawn.

Claim 4 is dependent from amended independent claim 3. Accordingly, it is also respectfully requested that the above 103 rejection of claim 4 be withdrawn for at least the reasons previously described.

The features added to claims 1-3 are believed to be described in the present application and, as such, are not believed to be new matter. See, for example, Fig. 4A and lines 1-3 of page 5 of the present application.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejections of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional rejections which the Examiner might have.

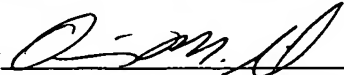
Application No.: 10/538,880

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-1066

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: May 28, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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